4th December 1947]

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"No, Sir. I do not think the Government have expressed any view on the matter."

Water-supply in the Salem municipal area.

* 164 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any, and, if so, what schemes are pending for the improvement of the water-supply in Salem Municipal area; and

(*b*) how soon the schemes are expected to be carried out?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Only one scheme called the Salem (Mettur) Water-supply Scheme is in progress now. The following items of works are still pending :—

(i) Installation of a pumping plant at the Mettur Reservoir.

(ii) Construction of a service reservoir at Ammapet.

Besides this, a scheme for remodelling the water-supply distribution system and improving the present scheme is pending.

" (*b*) Items (i) and (ii) mentioned above are expected to be completed in about two years. The delay is due to the difficulty in obtaining the necessary pumping plant, which has to be obtained from abroad. As regards the scheme for the remodelling of the distribution system and improvements to the present scheme the financial aspect of the problem is under examination in consultation with the municipal council. It is now too early to say when this scheme can be completed."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Will the Government be pleased to give a high priority for these schemes in view of the fact that sometimes as many as one hundred persons wait at a single tap in Salem?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The firm which has undertaken to supply the plant had said that it would take twelve months' time to deliver the plant due to difficult conditions prevailing in England and six months' time to erect it and set it in working order."

Breaking out of cholera in Madura and Trichinopoly.

* 165 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether cholera has recently broken out as an epidemic in Madura and Trichinopoly;

(*b*) the number of deaths due to cholera in the Province, since 31st August 1947 (weekwar);

(*c*) whether cholera is a preventable disease;

(*d*) whether the Government have taken any, and what, steps to eradicate the disease out of the Province;